

CONFIDENTIAL: To be treated as strictly confidential until released for publications as follows:-

MORNING PAPERS : TUESDAY, 25TH JULY, 1950.

EVENING PAPERS : TUESDAY, 25TH JULY, 1950.

BROADCASTING STATIONS : MIDNIGHT, MONDAY, 24TH JULY, 1950.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS - AUSTRALIA, MAY, 1950.

Monthly records of employment referred to in this notice relate to all wage and salary earners except those in rural industry and female private domestic service, and therefore cover about 90 per cent. of all wage and salary earners in employment. Figures quoted are subject to revision.

At the end of May, 1950 the number of persons employed (2,544,000) was greater by 11,800 (0.5 per cent.) than in April, 1950. The number of males in employment rose by 9,200 to 1,855,300 and the number of females by 2,600 to 688,700.

Comparisons of numbers in employment in the months of May, 1949 and April and May, 1950 are as follows:-

NUMBERS IN EMPLOYMENT - AUSTRALIA.

(Excluding Rural Industry and Female Private Domestic Service)
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Particulars	May, 1949	April, 1950	May, 1950
Males ..	1,787.1	1,846.1	1,855.3
Females ..	664.1	686.1	688.7
Persons ..	2,451.2	2,532.2	2,544.0

CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS.

The largest absolute increases, during May, in numbers of males employed, occurred in factories, where the rise was 4,000 to a total of 655,800, and in building and construction - a rise of 2,700 to 195,800.

The largest absolute increases in numbers of females employed occurred in factories - a rise of 600 to 224,100 and in commerce - a rise of 1,100 to 149,900.

FACTORY EMPLOYMENT.

The number of persons employed in factories rose during May by 4,600 to 879,900.

The largest absolute increase in males employed occurred in the metals, machines, vehicles, etc. class where the rise was 2,500. Smaller increases occurred in practically all other classes.

The main movements in numbers of females employed were a rise of 500 in the metals, machines, vehicles, etc. class, a rise of 500 in textiles (including knitted goods), a rise of 300 in clothing, and a fall of 1,200 in the food, drink and tobacco class.

EMPLOYMENT BY PUBLIC AUTHORITIES.

The number of persons employed by public authorities (Commonwealth, State, Local and Semi-Governmental) on services such as railways, tramways, the post-office, education, police, public works etc., and in administration rose during May by 2,800 to 661,300.

This increase was distributed as follows:- Commonwealth : 900 (increases in the post-office and in building and construction offset decreases in new Australians employed by defence authorities and in employees of administrative departments); State and Semi-Governmental : 1,400 (mainly in building and construction); and Local : 500.

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CANBERRA. A.C.T.

24TH JULY, 1950.